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BLACK CANARY

A faster response to gun violence.

01

Detects gunfire within seconds

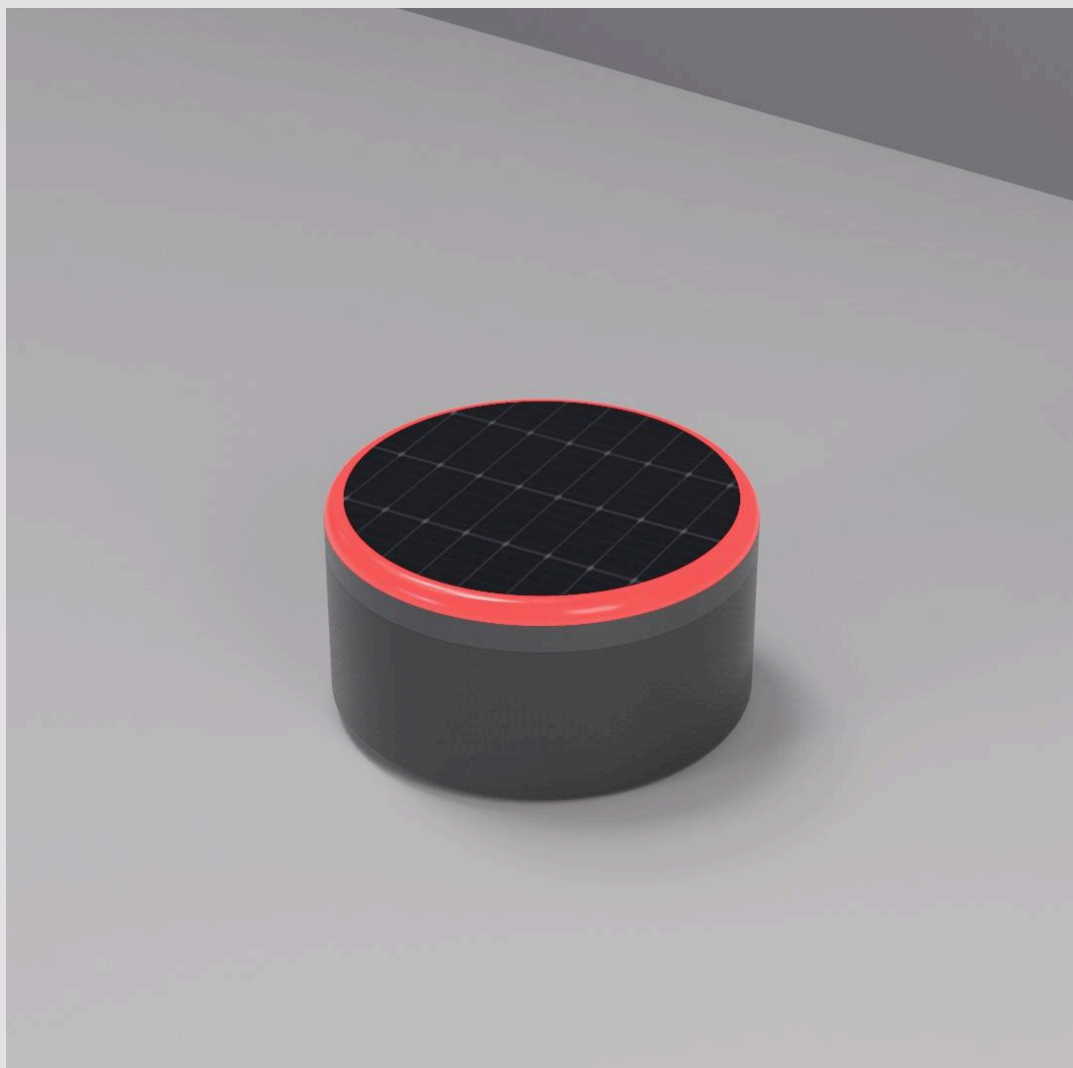
Black Canary uses sound sensors to help reduce emergency response times for law enforcement.



02

24/7 monitoring

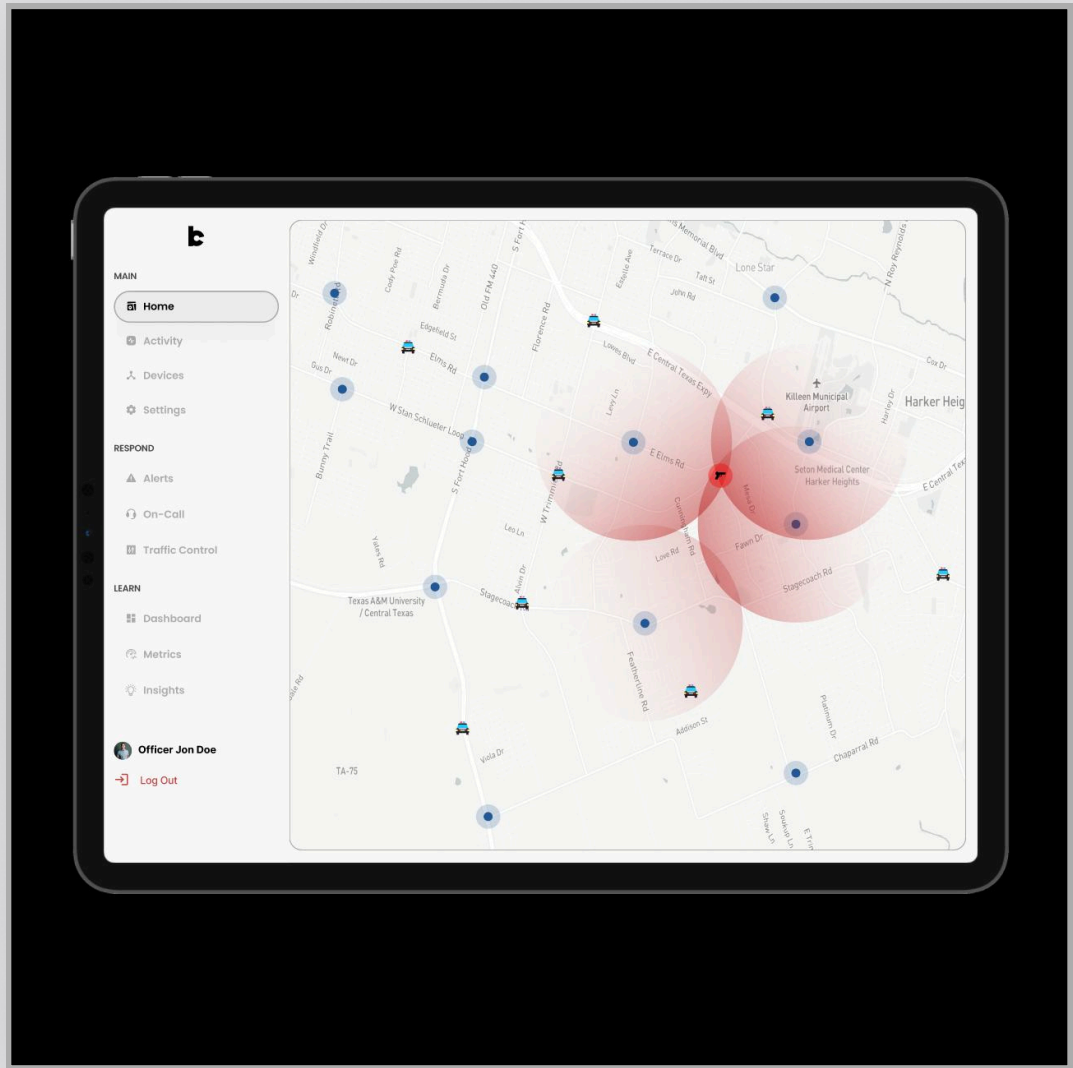
Black Canary's solar panel recharges the internal battery with no outside power.



03

Sends instant alerts via text, call, and email

Black Canary will make sure citizens and law enforcement are aware of any threat, instantly.



04

Vision and analytics

Desktop and mobile apps you can access anywhere.

RESEARCH

On 2/13/25, I had a text conversation with Mike McGady, a former policeman with years of experience working in one of the most dangerous neighborhoods in America, North Philadelphia. I spoke with him to gain insight into how the police react to gun violence. **Nothing has been modified from the original text conversation.**

Wayne: “Good afternoon, Mike. When there’s a gun incident, how long did it take for it to get reported and how were you notified? Is there some kind of system or were civilians just calling it in?”

Mike: “Gun incidents were always treated as a priority call. Priority calls included robbery in progress, gunshots, burglary alarm, person screaming, shooting and of course person with gun. Usually, it took a few minutes to report. But priority calls would be dispatched immediately. Accident report or minor neighbor disputes would sit in a call queue until officers were available from other calls.”

“So, the time amount would be you see someone pull a gun in the street. You call 911 and give them a description, male red hoodie walking towards broad street and what they did "pulled a gun on someone". The call taker would give it to dispatch once she got all pertinent info. Then give it to the cops. We would then lights-and-sirens to the call.”

“I would say from the incident to cops actually getting there could be around 3 minutes if it’s quick and cops are close to 5 to 7 minutes if its a busy day, no one is available and no one is close.”

“We definitely had days where we go to a person with a gun call and the complainant would say well it happened 10 minutes ago. It’s a bit city and usually at night a lot of priority calls at once.”

“9 out of 10 times you were notified by radio which would mostly be from a civilian calling 911. The other way dispatch gave us gun calls was if a shot spotter went off. They can detect gunshots (on paper lol). The only other way would be directly from a cop over radio.”

“A cop would come over and say they heard gunshots or i was flagged down by a woman and she stated a male pulled a gun on her and he ran this way. Sometimes if aa drug or vice unit was doing surveillance but couldn't blow their cover, they would come over an advise police of someone with a gun. It usually wouldn't take a very long time whether it was a civilian calling 911 or a cop coming over. Guns and gunshot calls were usually too priority unless there were exigent circumstances.”

“The short version is usually about 3 to 5 minutes went by before the officers got the call and usually notified by radio dispatch. The main system was overwhelming civilians calling it in. After that was cops calling in over radio. Last a the least by far was shot spotters.”

Wayne: “What’s a shot spotter?”

Mike: “So, they are in certain areas where a lot of shootings occur. They are supposed to detect gunshots. It would send a signal that would be sent radio, and they would dispatch the cops to that shot spotter location. It could only give its location and not of shooting. Shot spotter at 3rd street and main street could detect shot from 5th and main it would still give location of 3rd and main.”

“The good part was the shot spotter was quicker than a civilian calling 911. It registers immediately. The problem is sometimes it would not pick up shootings also technical difficulties of it picking up distant gunfire as well occasionally fireworks lol.”

Wayne: “I’m assuming it’s less of a network of devices that communicate with each other. They’re just strategically placed in high crime areas hoping it’ll ping something.”

Mike: “Yeah. Specifically, areas prone to shootings. We had one on a drug block and there a lot of shootings on that corner.”

Wayne: “Makes sense. This has been very insightful. Thanks a lot.”

Mike: “No problem. Any other questions just reach out.”